

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 (currently amended)

An extrusion coating method of extruding a coating solution from a coater onto a web-shaped substrate, comprising steps of:

conveying the substrate in a conveying direction;

supporting by coming in contact with a first side surface of the substrate by a back-roll; and

extruding simultaneously at least a lowermost layer solution and an adjacent layer solution onto a second side surface of the supported substrate in such a way that the lower most layer solution is coated on the second surface and the adjacent layer is superimposed on the lowermost layer solution, wherein a viscosity V_a (Pa·s) of the lowermost layer solution and a viscosity V_b (Pa·s) of the adjacent layer solution satisfy the following formula

$$V_b/V_a \geq 2.5$$

wherein the viscosity V_b is not less than 10 mPa·s.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended)

The extrusion coating method of claim 1, wherein the viscosity V_a , the viscosity V_b , a thickness T_a (μm) of the lowermost layer solution and a thickness T_b of the adjacent layer solution satisfy the following ~~formula.~~ formula

$$(V_b/V_a)/(T_b/T_a) < 7.5.$$

Claim 3 (Currently Amended)

The extrusion coating method of claim 1, wherein the viscosity V_a and the viscosity V_b satisfy the following ~~formula.~~ formula

$$2.5 \leq (V_b/V_a) \leq 30.$$

Claim 4 (Currently Amended)

The extrusion coating method of claim 2, wherein the viscosity V_a , the viscosity V_b , the thickness T_a and the thickness T_b satisfy the following ~~formula.~~ formula

$$0.8 \leq (V_b/V_a)/(T_b/T_a) < 7.5.$$

Claim 5 (Previously Presented)

The extrusion coating method of claim 1, wherein the lowermost layer solution is formed by diluting the adjacent layer solution.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently Amended)

The extrusion coating method of claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein the viscosity V_b is not more than 3.0 Pa·s.